

Why a barn tour?

Barns are the story of America. From pioneer, pre-industrial America to the heartland of modern rural America, it is a long, interesting, and important tale. The barns of America have stood as witnesses and guardians of the history of our country. From tiny log pens cut into wilderness to ornate castles in the middle of vast fields, they tell the story of hard work, dedication, aspiration, and creativity. It is our story.

The barn is one of the most familiar features of the American rural landscape. Functionally, a barn is a farm building for sheltering, processing, and storing agricultural products, animals, and implements, but they are much more than that. There is an emotional connection to barns that transcends their function. By representing tangible links to our past, barns serve as icons of our heritage.

When we preserve a barn, we join a parade of people: those who have gone before, and those who are yet to take their first breath. Barns possess intrinsic value that makes their preservation essential to the tapestry of a community. We are fortunate that the importance of barns within Bucks County's heritage is recognized. The barns that you will see on this tour still stand because their value has been understood. Unfortunately, many of our historic buildings are still threatened with extinction.

As a not-for-profit land conservation and historic preservation organization, Heritage Conservancy works to save the barns in the field and the fields around the barn. We aim to educate while generating a connection to barns and the history that they represent.

Awareness will lead to an appreciation, which will in turn ensure that our history stays on the land and is not confined to museums. Our organization was motivated to create this barn tour for that very reason.

We hope that by learning about and recognizing the beauty of these barns, you will be inspired to help protect them. Please enjoy discovering the story of Bucks County through these iconic structures. Barn voyage!